



Chapter 5C

Washington State University Tri-Cities Enrollment Highlights

Introduction

Washington State University (WSU) Tri-Cities was created in July 1989. Legislation consolidated the activities of the Tri-Cities University Center, previously supported by five institutions (University of Washington, Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, Oregon State University, and WSU). Since 1993, all degrees offered at WSU are from WSU. The campus has responsibility for upper-division and graduate education. It serves students primarily from Benton, Franklin, and Walla Walla Counties. The majority of programs are in engineering and technical areas, reflecting the five-decade history of the campus and its partnerships with the Tri-Cities scientific community. Other program areas include business, education, humanities, sciences, social sciences, nursing, and agriculture.

The programs with the largest enrollment in fall 2000 were humanities and social sciences combined (20 percent), education (30 percent), engineering (20 percent), and business (19 percent). Most of the WSU Tri-Cities undergraduate students are community college and four-year institution transfers who are place-bound, working students completing degrees. Graduate students constitute almost 33 percent of the student body.

The Fall 2000 enrollment was 1,110 students or 662 FTEs. (See Table 21.)

Access and Participation Rates

Approximately 84 percent of all enrolled students are drawn from the Tri-Cities service area counties of Benton, Franklin, and Walla Walla. Almost 5 percent of students are from neighboring Yakima County. In addition, there were 31 out-of-state students. (See Table 22 and Figure 8.)

Service Levels and Student Flow

Over 72 percent of WSU Tri-Cities students attend part-time. Many are older place-bound working adults. The number of younger students is increasing, however, as more students opt to live at home while attending college. The average age of WSU Tri-Cities students is over 30.

Out of the 368 new students attending WSU Tri-Cities Fall semester, 138 transferred from Washington community colleges, 42 from Washington four-year institutions, 52 from out-of-state institutions, and the rest is from other entrance. Of 1,025 students attending the previous spring semester, 742 continued their enrollment, accounting for a 72 percent retention rate. (See Table 23.)

Table 21
Washington State University Tri-Cities
Annual Average and Fall Headcount Enrollment and FTEs
1970-71 through 2000-01

	<u>Annual Average</u>		<u>Fall Quarter</u>	
	<u>Headcount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Headcount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>
1970-71	163	N/A	198	N/A
1971-72	128	N/A	139	N/A
1972-73	185	N/A	201	N/A
1973-74	206	N/A	292	N/A
1974-75	276	N/A	293	N/A
1975-76	372	N/A	391	N/A
1976-77	380	N/A	473	N/A
1977-78	411	N/A	460	N/A
1978-79	409	N/A	492	N/A
1979-80	377	N/A	440	N/A
1980-81	444	N/A	510	N/A
1981-82	441	184	503	209
1982-83	365	147	415	162
1983-84	408	162	461	180
1984-85	428	183	465	188
1985-86	892	384	984	409
1986-87	577	230	692	280
1987-88	838	385	873	405
1988-89	782	381	868	426
1989-90	811	384	792	387
1990-91	909	406	939	415
1991-92	946	424	921	410
1992-93	1,047	492	1,069	503
1993-94	1,131	530	1,144	534
1994-95	1,253	624	1,281	635
1995-96	1,203	619	1,209	627
1996-97	1,278	656	1,264	645
1997-98	1,192	647	1,236	664
1998-99	1,067	591	1,094	604
1999-00	1,050	596	1,081	612
2000-01	1,080	639	1,110	662

NOTES:

CWU and EWU joined the Center during the 1985-86 to 1988-89 years. WSU has been the sole fiscal agent since Fall 1989.

SOURCE: Higher Education Enrollment Report (HEER).

Table 22
Washington State University Tri-Cities
County Participation Rates, Fall 2000

<u>County</u>	<u>2000 Pop Age 17+</u>	<u>Fall 2000 Enr.</u>	<u>Part. Rates</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>2000 Pop Age 17+</u>	<u>Fall 2000 Enr.</u>	<u>Part. Rates</u>	<u>Desc. Rank</u>
Adams	11,113	6	0.054	Benton	102,453	758	0.740	1
Asotin	15,615	0	0.000	Franklin	33,172	135	0.407	2
Benton	102,453	758	0.740	Walla Walla	42,594	39	0.092	3
Chelan	49,018	9	0.018	Garfield	1,816	1	0.055	4
* Clallam	51,255	0	0.000	Adams	11,113	6	0.054	5
* Clark	251,228	4	0.002	Yakima	155,550	59	0.038	6
Columbia	3,150	0	0.000	Chelan	49,018	9	0.018	7
* Cowlitz	69,408	1	0.001	Ferry	5,448	1	0.018	8
Douglas	23,520	1	0.004	Grant	52,068	7	0.013	9
Ferry	5,448	1	0.018	Lincoln	7,755	1	0.013	10
Franklin	33,172	135	0.407	Whitman	34,385	4	0.012	11
Garfield	1,816	1	0.055	Kittitas	27,151	3	0.011	12
Grant	52,068	7	0.013	Douglas	23,520	1	0.004	13
* Grays Harbor	50,972	1	0.002	* Lewis	51,506	2	0.004	14
* Island	54,262	1	0.002	Okanogan	29,245	1	0.003	15
* Jefferson	21,119	0	0.000	* Grays Harbor	50,972	1	0.002	16
* King	1,368,040	6	0.000	* Thurston	158,009	3	0.002	17
* Kitsap	173,339	0	0.000	* Island	54,262	1	0.002	18
Kittitas	27,151	3	0.011	* Clark	251,228	4	0.002	19
Klickitat	14,263	0	0.000	* Cowlitz	69,408	1	0.001	20
* Lewis	51,506	2	0.004	* Pierce	520,806	5	0.001	21
Lincoln	7,755	1	0.013	Spokane	317,017	2	0.001	22
* Mason	38,491	0	0.000	* King	1,368,040	6	0.000	23
Okanogan	29,245	1	0.003	Asotin	15,615	0	0.000	24
* Pacific	16,769	0	0.000	* Clallam	51,255	0	0.000	25
Pend Oreille	8,824	0	0.000	Columbia	3,150	0	0.000	26
* Pierce	520,806	5	0.001	* Jefferson	21,119	0	0.000	27
* San Juan	11,527	0	0.000	* Kitsap	173,339	0	0.000	28
* Skagit	77,482	0	0.000	Klickitat	14,263	0	0.000	29
* Skamania	7,400	0	0.000	* Mason	38,491	0	0.000	30
* Snohomish	448,524	0	0.000	* Pacific	16,769	0	0.000	31
Spokane	317,017	2	0.001	Pend Oreille	8,824	0	0.000	32
Stevens	29,243	0	0.000	* San Juan	11,527	0	0.000	33
* Thurston	158,009	3	0.002	* Skagit	77,482	0	0.000	34
* Wahkiakum	2,981	0	0.000	* Skamania	7,400	0	0.000	35
Walla Walla	42,594	39	0.092	* Snohomish	448,524	0	0.000	36
* Whatcom	129,356	0	0.000	Stevens	29,243	0	0.000	37
Whitman	34,385	4	0.012	* Wahkiakum	2,981	0	0.000	38
Yakima	155,550	59	0.038	* Whatcom	129,356	0	0.000	39
Washington Total	4,465,872	1,050	0.024	Washington Total	4,465,872	1,050	0.024	
Out-of-State U.S.		31		Out-of-State U.S.		31		
Foreign		29		Foreign		29		
Total		1,110		Total		1,110		
* West of the Cascades.	3,502,474	23	0.001					
East of the Cascades	963,398	1,027	0.107					

NOTE:

These are participation rates of enrolled students who applied from within the state of Washington by county.

Source: Enrollment data is from Fall 2000 HEER. Population data is from OFM.

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Table 23
Washington State University Tri-Cities¹
Student Flow: Fall 1989 through Fall 2000

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Freshman Entrance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	0
Washington High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	0
High School Senior Previous Fall	60,912	56,484	54,388	55,659	56,617	58,590	61,112	62,720	65,346	68,242	69,373	72,131
Percent	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00
Out of State High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WSU Tri-Cities Fall Headcount	792	936	921	1,069	1,144	1,281	1,209	1,264	1,236	1,094	1,081	1,110
Percent	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer	256	367	396	414	438	417	377	398	407	324	189	232
Washington Community Colleges	113	146	164	181	191	209	197	188	201	165	117	138
CC Academic AA FTE ³	34,611	40,665	41,274	43,656	44,308	47,089	47,972	47,972	46,090	44,772	45,419	46,427
Percent	0.33	0.36	0.40	0.41	0.43	0.44	0.41	0.39	0.44	0.37	0.26	0.30
Washington Four-Year Institution	71	102	101	133	128	166	141	167	170	128	41	42
Public Four-Year Previous Spring	70,290	72,149	73,340	73,960	75,404	77,657	78,250	78,856	80,857	81,065	82,606	86,995
Percent	0.10	0.14	0.14	0.18	0.17	0.21	0.18	0.21	0.21	0.16	0.05	0.05
Out of State Institution	72	119	131	100	119	42	39	43	36	31	31	52
WSU Tri-Cities Fall Headcount	792	936	921	1,069	1,144	1,281	1,209	1,264	1,236	1,094	1,081	1,110
Percent	9.09	12.71	14.22	9.35	10.40	3.28	3.23	3.40	2.91	2.83	2.87	4.68
Continuing Student	411	480	438	592	637	750	735	769	723	656	748	742
Continuing Student	411	480	438	592	637	750	735	769	723	656	748	742
WSU Tri-Cities Previous Spring	723	817	906	971	1,024	1,118	1,224	1,197	1,292	1,148	1,040	1,025
Percent Retained	56.85	58.75	48.34	60.97	62.21	67.08	60.05	64.24	55.96	57.14	71.92	72.39
Other Entrance	125	89	87	63	69	114	97	97	106	114	86	136
Former Student	124	83	87	63	69	114	97	97	0	114	86	100
Unknown	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
Total Fall Headcount	792	936	921	1,069	1,144	1,281	1,209	1,264	1,236	1,094	1,081	1,110
Total AA FTEs	384	406	424	492	530	624	619	656	647	591	596	639

NOTES:

¹Program started Fall 1990.

²Beginning 1994, figures include Technical Colleges from SBCTC Management Information System (MIS).

CC = Community College

AA = Annual Average

SOURCE: Higher Education Enrollment Report (HEER).

Figure 8
**Washington State University Tri-Cities
 County Participation Rates, Fall 1998**

